

SUPREME COURT.

5th March.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE FULL COURT.—SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND MR. A. G. WISE (JUDGE).

G. E. PATTER, APPELLANT, V. A. BRUNNEN, RESPONDENT.

In this case the appellant who is the first mate of the American ship *E. E. Thomas*, brought an appeal against the decision of the Hon. Mr. J. D. Wodehouse on the 18th February, whereby he was sentenced to imprisonment for six weeks with hard labour for assaulting the respondent.

REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

ROUTED TO THE "DAILY PRESS."

LONDON, 3rd March.

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE POWERS IN CHINA.

The Standard states that the Government is negotiating with Russia and Germany, with a view to embolism, in a formal diplomatic document, the character of an international agreement, of their assurances regarding China.

PARLIAMENT—UGANDA.

In a debate on Uganda Mr. Curzon said that it was proposed to maintain a battalion of 700 Indian troops at Uganda. He said further, that a thorough enquiry would be made into the alleged misdeeds of the British troops at Uganda.

LONDON, 4th March.

THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

News has been received of further fighting in the interior of Sierra Leone between the natives and the police under Major Tait. All natives and the police are reported to be safe.

LORD SALISBURY'S HEALTH.

Lord Salisbury goes to the Riviera to recruit his health.

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

The London County Council Elections have proved a great radical victory. 71 Progressives and 47 Moderates were elected. The main issue was the Government scheme of municipal reforms.

THE CHINA SQUADRON.

The *Donatella* has been commissioned to relieve the *Rainbow* on the China Station. It is stated that the *Hermione* and the *St. George* are also going to China.

THE EXPLOSION ON THE U.S.S. "MAINE."

THE NUMBER OF KILLED AND INJURED.

An officer of the American Navy has kindly furnished us with further particulars concerning the terrible explosion which occurred on board the American armored cruiser *Maine* whilst anchored in Havana harbour. The particulars were wired by the American Admiralty in response to a telegram sent by the officers of the American ships now in Hong Kong harbour. The two officers killed were Lieutenant Jenkins and Engineer Merritt. Two hundred and forty men lost their lives. Fifty-one were injured, and only thirteen of the crew of three hundred and ten men escaped unhurt. Divers are now engaged in examining the wreck with a view of ascertaining the real cause of the explosion.

MINUTE OF THE DEPARTMENT.

The following letter and telegram have been received by the Commander Dewey, of the flag ship *Olympia*—

Government House, Hong Kong, 21st February, 1898.

Sir—Yesterday received your official notification of the great calamity which has befallen the U.S.S. *Maine*. I have to express to you the deep sympathy which is common with the inhabitants of Hong Kong for you and your officers in this time of national mourning.

The half mast flags of the British ships at the harbour will testify to our feelings in this time of sorrow and loss—I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant.

(Signed) W. Black.

Office Administrator of the Government. Port Arthur, 25th February, 1898. To Commander Dewey.

I beg you to accept most sincere condolence from the Government of Hong Kong regarding the loss of the U.S.S. *Maine*.

On board *Olympia* at Hong Kong. I have received Mr. Hargray's confirmation of the news of the terrible accident which has befallen the U.S.S. *Maine*. I have to express to you the deep sympathy which is common with the inhabitants of Hong Kong for you and your officers in this time of national mourning.

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PLAQUE MEASURES IN HONGKONG.

The following, from the *Lancet* of 20th January, will be read with interest—

The reverendness of plague in Hong Kong

The attitude of this colony in relation to

the subject was widely discussed last year. When

the views held in Hong Kong were very varied

and the official reports and statements on the

different aspects of the question were

disagreeing, the public mind was greatly

concerned. The medical officer of health, Mr.

Clark, the medical officer of health, had urged

that "Asiatic and African plague should not

be allowed to pass from Hong Kong to other

countries, and that the individuals in question

should be placed under some supervision. The

views of the medical officer of health were

widely and the health officer was declared

to be "absolutely ignorant of the conditions

affecting the question." The truth was that

country took a very serious view of the

plague in Hong Kong. The health officer was

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